

R277. Education, Administration.

R277-492. Utah Science Technology and Research Initiative (USTAR) Centers Program.

R277-492-[2] 1. Authority and Purpose.

[A-] (1) This rule is authorized by:

(a) Utah Constitution, Article X, Section 3, which vests general control and supervision of public education in the Board[;];

(b) Subsection [53A-1-401] 53E-3-401(4), which permits the Board to adopt rules ~~[in accordance with]~~ to carry out its duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law[;]; and

(c) Section [53A-17a-159] 53F-2-505, which ~~[appropriates]~~ provides for funding to establish extended contracts for ~~[mathematics and science]~~ participating teachers as part of the Utah Science Technology and Research (USTAR) Centers Initiative.

~~The USOE shall provide statewide supervision of the program and budget and shall recommend funding for USTAR programs based on USTAR objectives, Board funding priorities and available funds.~~

[B-] (2) The purpose of [F] this rule is to establish:

(a) conditions for the Superintendent to manage the USTAR Program;

(b) ~~[establishes]~~ standards and procedures for an LEA to submit a proposal for USTAR funding to develop and create USTAR Centers to enhance the LEA's ability to retain participating teachers, offer more opportunities for students, and use capital facilities for effectively by creating an extended contract; and

(c) ~~[to direct]~~ requirements associated with receiving USTAR funding for a recipient [public school districts or charter schools] LEA. [to develop proposals that create USTAR Centers that will enhance their ability to retain mathematics and science teachers while simultaneously offering more opportunities for students and more effectively using capital facilities.]

R277-492-[4] 2. Definitions.

[A. "Annual report" means information and data identified under R277-492 provided

~~by funding recipients to the USOE annually by June 30 as a requirement for continued funding of the school or school district program.]~~

~~[B. "Board" means the Utah State Board of Education.]~~

~~[C.] (1) "Extended [year]" means either a longer contract day or a longer contract year for participating teachers.~~

~~[E. "School district/charter school] (2) LEA USTAR proposal" means a written proposal, including components required by the Board, developed and submitted by a school district/charter school applying for USTAR funding.~~

~~[D.] (3) "Mathematics or science Participating teacher" means a:~~

~~(a) licensed mathematics teacher with a secondary (7-12) mathematics teaching assignment; or~~

~~(b) licensed science teacher with a secondary (7-12) [mathematics or] science teaching assignment.~~

~~[F.] (4) "STEM" means science, technology, engineering and mathematics.~~

~~[G. "USOE" means the Utah State Office of Education.]~~

~~H. "USTAR" means Utah Science Technology and Research.~~

~~[I.] (5) "USTAR Program" means student and teacher opportunities to broaden their knowledge and experiences within STEM fields the grant program created in 53F-2-505.~~

~~[J. "Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU)" means the basic state funding unit.]~~

R277-492-3. USTAR Proposal Criteria.

~~[A.] (1) [A school district/charter school] An LEA shall first identify the purpose or goal(s) of its USTAR proposal.~~

~~[B.] (2) Appropriate purposes may include:~~

~~[(1)] (a) improvement in student test scores;~~

~~[(2)] (b) satisfaction of specific academic goals for all students or various groups of students;~~

~~[(3)] (c) increased retention of licensed educators in specific areas;~~

~~[(4)] (d) improved school climate;~~

~~[(5)] (e) increased opportunities for students to take remedial or college preparation~~

courses;

~~[(6)]~~ (f) increased student enrollment in identified courses;

~~[(7)]~~ (g) additional opportunities for students to learn about specific or general higher education or career opportunities in math or science fields; or

~~[(8)]~~ (h) other purposes consistent with Subsection ~~[53A-17a-159]~~ 53F-2-505(1)(b).

~~[C:]~~ (3) In accordance with Section 53F-2-505(1)(b)(ii), ~~[A]~~ an LEA ~~[school district/charter school]~~ shall provide a school schedule showing how it will extend hours of the school day ~~[(Section 53A-17a-159(1)(b)(iii))]~~ or days of the school year ~~[(Section 53A-17a-159(1)(b)(iii))]~~ to maximize employee and facility resources in furtherance of the proposal's goals.

~~[D:]~~ (4) ~~A~~ The USTAR proposal shall:

(a) explain how employees shall be used in the extended school day or ~~[expanded]~~ extended school year to maximize their effectiveness with students, including how various groups of employees will participate including classified employees, licensed employees, and appropriate supervisors for all groups~~[-];~~

(b) ~~[Though various school employee groups may be necessary or desirable to achieve the purposes of the proposal, the proposal shall]~~ use USTAR grant funds only to pay for hours or days worked by ~~[science or mathematics]~~ participating teachers with valid, current Utah educator licenses~~[-];~~ even though various school employee groups may be necessary or desirable to achieve the purposes of the proposal;

~~[E:]~~ (c) ~~[The USTAR proposal shall]~~ identify the number of designated employees that will participate in the ~~[expanded]~~ extended school year or extended school day program with the understanding that USTAR grant funds may only be used for licensed ~~[mathematics and science]~~ participating teachers~~[-];~~

~~[F:]~~ (d) ~~[The USTAR proposal shall]~~ identify the compensation that ~~[all necessary employees]~~ participating teachers shall receive, including increased insurance and benefit costs, if appropriate~~[-];~~ which may be reported ~~[compensation may be determined]~~ by groups of employees or by individual employees~~[-];~~

~~[G:]~~ (e) ~~[The USTAR proposal shall]~~ identify how ~~[licensed educators]~~ participating teachers will be evaluated for the extended hours or ~~[expanded]~~ extended days worked~~[-];~~

[H:] (f) ~~[The USTAR proposal shall]~~ include a budget section, including anticipated costs and narrative[-]; and

[I:] (g) ~~[The USTAR proposal shall]~~ include an annual evaluation component that provides opportunities for student, employee and parent participation in the assessment of the proposal's effectiveness. ~~[Proposals shall provide for evaluations of program effectiveness at least annually.]~~

R277-492-4. [Board/USOE] Superintendent Responsibilities.

~~[A. The USOE shall carry out the responsibilities of the Board consistent with the Board's review and direction:]~~ (1) The Superintendent shall provide statewide supervision of the USTAR program and budget, based on USTAR objectives, Board funding priorities, and available funds.

~~[B:]~~(2) The [USOE] Superintendent shall solicit proposals from ~~school districts/charter schools~~ LEAs to participate in the USTAR grant program.

~~[C:]~~(3) In order to qualify for funding, an LEA shall submit a proposal ~~[Proposals shall be due]~~ to the [USOE] Superintendent by June 2 annually.

~~[{4}]~~ (a) The [USOE] Superintendent ~~[will]~~ shall work with applicants that submit proposals early to improve proposals₁ to the extent of resources and time available.

~~[{2}]~~ (b) The [USOE] Superintendent shall deliver final charter school proposals to the State Charter School Board for ~~[R]~~review and recommendation.

~~[D:]~~ (4)(a) ~~The [USOE shall receive]~~ State Charter School Board shall submit a consolidated request [from the State Charter School Board] to the Superintendent, consistent with Subsection ~~[53A-17a-159]~~ 53F-2-505(4)₁ by June 20 annually.

(b) The State Charter Board and State Charter Board staff shall work with charter school applicants that submit proposals early to improve proposals₁ to the extent of resources and time available.

~~[E:]~~ (5) The [USOE] Superintendent shall receive all proposals from school districts, consider~~[ing]~~ the consolidated request submitted by the State Charter Board as a proposal from one school district, and rank them on an objective scale or rubric prepared by the [USOE] Superintendent.

[F.] (6) The [Board] Superintendent may appoint an expert review panel to prioritize proposals and recommend proposals for funding.

[G.] (7) The expert review panel, the Superintendent, or ~~[the USOE or]~~ both, shall consider the priorities of Subsection ~~[53A-17a-159]~~ 53F-2-505(5) in recommending and selecting the recipients, with the following objectives:

[~~(1)~~] (a) rural, urban, large, small, growing and declining school districts (considering the consolidated charter request as one school district) having unique circumstances;

[~~(2)~~] (b) as many pilot programs shall be funded as possible; and

[~~(3)~~] (c) funded proposals should address the objectives and benefits of Section ~~[53A-17a-159]~~ 53F-2-505(1)(b).

[H.] (8) The [Board] Superintendent shall review recommendations, make final ~~[decisions]~~ recommendations to the Board for funding, and notify applicants that receive funding no later than July 31 annually.

[I.] (9) The [USOE] Superintendent shall provide funds to school districts/charter schools (or the consolidated charter recipient) consistent with [USOE] Board distribution practices for grants.

R277-492-5. ~~[School District/Charter School Consolidated]~~ LEA and State Charter School Board Proposal Responsibilities.

[A.] (1) School districts shall submit proposals that meet the standards of ~~[R277-717-3 and]~~ Section ~~[53A-17a-159]~~ 53F-2-505 no later than June 2 annually.

[B.] (2) The State Charter Board shall complete its work under Subsection ~~[53A-17a-159]~~ 53F-2-505(4) and submit its consolidated request to the [USOE] Superintendent no later than June 20 annually.

[C.] (3) ~~[School district and charter school]~~ LEA proposals shall clearly demonstrate that all participants necessary for the success of a proposal are voluntary participants and understand the requirements of their participation.

~~[D:] (4) [School district and charter school] LEA~~ participants shall demonstrate parent and community notification and support of the school district/charter school proposals.

~~[E:] (5) Proposals shall clearly demonstrate that at least 95% [percent] of allocated funds shall be used for extended contracts for licensed ~~mathematics and science~~ participating teachers [contracts].~~

~~[F:] (6) Proposals shall clearly demonstrate that the remaining 5% [five percent] of allocated funds is used only for purposes identified under Subsection [53A-17a-159] 53F-2-505(6)(b).~~

~~[G:] (7) [Funded school districts and charter schools] LEAs that receive USTAR funding~~ shall provide all required evaluations to the [USOE] Superintendent as identified by their proposals consistent with [USOE] timelines established by the Superintendent.

~~[H:] (8) [Funded school districts and charter schools] LEAs that receive USTAR funding~~ shall provide information as requested by the [USOE] Superintendent during the time periods identified in the proposals, including allowing for visits of [USOE] Board staff and review of student work or assessments.

R277-492-6. Final Decision-making and Reporting Requirements.

~~[A:] (1) The Board's decisions for funding are final.~~

~~[B:] (2)(a) A grant recipient shall provide requested data or information related to its USTAR Funding to the Superintendent each year by June 30.~~

~~(b) The [USOE] Superintendent may request additional information, data or budget information if annual reports or student assessments indicate that USTAR funding is being used ineffectively, for ineligible employees, or inconsistent[ly] with the [school district/charter school] LEA's proposal or the intent of the law or this rule.~~

~~[C:] (3) The USOE may interrupt USTAR funding to school districts/charter schools that do not meet timelines required by this rule or that do not provide complete information or evaluations required under this rule.~~

~~D. The Board shall provide annual reports to Legislative committees as required by Section 53A-17a-159.~~

173 **KEY: science, technology, research, USTAR**
174 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: October 8, 2013**
175 **Notice of Continuation: August 2, 2013**
176 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; Subsection [~~53A-1-~~**
177 **~~401~~] 53E-3-401(4); [~~53A-17a-159~~] 53F-2-505**